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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Masayuki TAKAHASHI et al.



Atty. Ref.: 1858-23

Serial No. 09/702,828

Group: 1714

Filed: November 1, 2000

Examiner: (Unknown)

For: AUTOMOBILE INTERIOR OR EXTERIOR TRIM
MATERIAL

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

FACTUAL DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF PETITION UNDER RULES 42 AND 47

Sir:

The undersigned, **Hideo NAKANO**, hereby declares and states that:

1. I am currently, and for all times relevant to the facts stated herein have been, employed by Asahi Denka Kogyo KK, (hereinafter "Asahi Denka") the assignee of the invention disclosed and claimed in the above-identified application.
2. One of the listed inventors, Mr. Masayuki Takahashi, was employed by Asahi Denka, until his recent death. Due to Mr. Takahashi's death, Asahi Denka's patent agent asked that the decedent's wife and legal

representative as his heiress-in-law, Ms. Yuko Takahashi, be presented with the necessary formal application documents for the subject application so that she may execute the same on behalf of her deceased husband pursuant to 37 CFR §1.42.

3. Under my direction and control, I attempted to contact Ms. Yuko Takahashi at her last known address, namely: **4-15-26 Midori-Machi, Tokorozawa-City, Saitama 359-1111 Japan**. Specifically, under my direction and control, an employee of Asahi Denka, Mr. Tsutomu MATSUURA, made a personal visit to the address noted above where Mr. Takahashi and his wife, Ms. Yuko Takahashi, were last known to have lived together. This visit revealed that only the decedent's mother was home alone and that, according to her, the decedent's wife, Ms. Yuko Takahashi, had not lived there for some time. The decedent's mother further noted that she did not know of Ms. Yuko Takahashi's new address.
4. We are attempting to locate the decedent's wife by contacting her mother through information provided by the decedent's mother. In this regard, due to her advanced age, the decedent's mother does not recall the specific address and phone number of Ms. Yuko Takahashi's mother and has no known documents in her possession which would aid in her recollections on this point. About all the decedent's mother can recall at this time is the name of the train station near the home of Ms. Yuko Takahashi's mother. Given the information we presently have, it seems unlikely that Ms. Yuko Takahashi will be located before the due date by which the executed Declaration must be filed in connection with the subject application.
5. I declare further that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge

that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully Submitted,

ASAHI DENKA KOGYO K.K.

April 4, 2001

Date Signed

Hideo Nakano

By: Hideo NAKANO

Title: Manager of Patent & Information
Section – Urawa Planning Department, R& D
Division